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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-second session
25 February-7 March 2008
Item 3 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda*
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women

Statement submitted by International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Federation of University Women, Soroptimist International and Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2008/1.

07-63592 (E) 040108

Statement

The member organizations of Project Five-O: International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Council of Women, International Federation of University Women, Soroptimist International and Zonta International, each in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, are keenly interested in the priority theme for this fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, "Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women."

For more than twenty-five years our organizations have partnered together as Project Five-O to provide economic opportunities, education and training for thousands of local women of all ages in developing countries and countries in transition. Programs funded through Project five-O offer opportunities for women to acquire skills and income that often broaden their role in the family and community as well as improve the well-being of their family. Each of our organizations also carries out programs and advocacy for the advancement of the status of women and girls worldwide. Project Five-O is proud to have made this long-term contribution to building the capacity of women at the community level to enhance their individual and collective potential, but we recognize also that these efforts often require other support to insure sustainability. Micro-enterprises resulting from some of our projects need maintenance through insurance, savings mobilization, trade opportunities and technical assistance.

Project Five- O encourages the development of Women's Funds at local, national, regional and international levels. The mission and mandate of such funds is to provide for women's rights work and the building of social movements to sustain development and gender equality work.

Project Five-O organizations strongly support efforts of national governments to augment resources that provide more funding for programs that empower women and promote gender equality. We also applaud the cooperation with UN agencies that has resulted in enhanced gender-responsive budgeting practices. The participation of women in creating gender-responsive budgets is critical to enhancing this process. However, the lack of adequate resources has been one factor at the national level that has hindered progress toward the fulfilment of commitments made by governments on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women. The Beijing Platform for Action called for sufficient resources to be allocated to national machineries and other institutions that can contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the Platform for Action. But full implementation of the Platform for Action has in many instances been hampered by the absence, or only partial integration of a gender perspective into budgetary decisions and policies, most particularly those including the needs and priorities of women.

Project Five-O applauds the efforts of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to facilitate the integration and financing of gender equality and women's empowerment through national development strategies, sector-wide approaches and other new aid modalities. But Project Five-O is worried that the shift in development assistance from bilateral and multilateral donors, which focuses more on sector-wide approaches and large programs, has resulted in limited funding for

promoting gender equality and development in under-resourced areas such as agriculture. where women comprise a large segment of the workforce.

Project Five-O is very concerned about the limited commitments to the inclusion of a gender perspective and women's empowerment in development processes as described in the Final Declaration of the International Conference on Financing for Development (the Monterrey Consensus) and subsequent related international meetings Although important progress for women has been made worldwide, the advances and opportunities offered by the broad range of economic, political, cultural and social changes known as globalization have not, to a significant extent, benefited women who continue to live in disadvantaged conditions that limit the free exercise of their rights and their capacity for development. There is an urgent need for implementation of concrete measures to address these conditions and guarantee women's development.

We therefore support a strengthening of the conceptual, operational and financial aspects of the Monterrey Consensus commitment to gender equality. We also maintain that in the negotiation and implementation of international agreements relating to development. including CSW 52 and Doha 2008, it is important to encourage the participation of civil society organizations with national and international agencies. Such participation will ensure the integration of the principles and actions of internationally agreed instruments in women's empowerment and financing for development (Beijing, Cairo conferences), as well as ensure that progress on the implementation of these principles and actions is closely monitored from a gender perspective.

Project Five-O endorses the recommendations of INSTRAW to promote collaboration among governments, international financial institutions and civil society organizations to ensure that gender becomes a cross-cutting theme in both formulation and follow-up to financing for development policies. Research involving collection and distribution of data on the impact of macroeconomic policies, and analysis of the inter-connection between factors such as gender, ethnicity, age, economic status, schooling and place of residency, should be funded. Additionally, the production of gender statistics on the impact of specific economic policies. such as trade agreements, public spending and debt servicing. needs to be undertaken. INSTRAW further proposes trainings for governments, civil society organizations and businesses to mainstream gender into the political and economic agenda, to develop gender diagnostics and methodologies for analysis, to follow up the implementation of economic policies, to assess their impact on women, as well as to develop advocacy tools.

Project Five-O organizations would like to emphasize the critical contribution that enhanced capacity building for women's leadership and participation in decision-making in financial activities must assume. An important measure of a country's growth and development must be the role and status of women. Opportunities for women in economic development are not infrequently held back by gender inequities. Women are, in many instances, an untapped economic resource and under-utilized economic asset that need to be nurtured to build stronger societies.

Project Five-O eagerly anticipates the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women as an opportunity to strengthen our understanding of the complex economic and financial components

which need to be further addressed to ensure that women's empowerment and gender equality are core to the formulation of and follow-up to all future financing for development policies and strategies.

Project Five-O also eagerly anticipates the discussions around the review theme for the 2008 CSW, "Women's participation in conflict prevention, management, conflict resolution and post-conflict peace-building". As recognized in Security Council resolution 1325 women must play a central role in each of these processes for peace to succeed. The review of progress made, obstacles encountered, and promising practices toward fulfilling commitments made in these areas are of the utmost importance to the achievement of women's rights and gender equality.

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Statement submitted by International Network of Liberal Women, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2008/1.

07-63604 (E) 040108

Statement

Women's participation in conflict prevention management, conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building

Considering all the previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the provisions that appear in the instruments of humanitarian law about the protection of the civil population.

Considering resolution 1325 of the Security Council of the 31st October 2000, related to women, peace and security.

Considering that for women, mutual understanding, peaceful co-existence and non-violence in resolving differences are deeply in their consciousness and are inviolable principles of human rights.

INLW notes:

That there exists serious worry regarding the persistence of armed conflicts in many regions of the world.

That all forms of violence in zones of armed conflicts, committed against the civil population affect particularly women and children, infringing seriously the humanitarian international law, especially the provisions of the Geneva Accords of 12 August 1949.

INLW proposes that:

Women, who are the main civilian victims of conflicts and wars, have to be empowered and made part of conflict management.

Women have to participate in diplomacy, conflict resolutions, post-conflict peace-building, conflict prevention, debates and activities in all public and civil institutions at all levels worldwide.

Women, who take part in conflict prevention, post-conflict resolution and in all forms of peace-building, have to be provided with mentoring programs and funding, so as to be able to perform the mentioned activities properly.

Administrations, institutions on national and international level, have to include peace-building budgets in their public finances.

Partnerships and networking between women's organizations is very important to strengthen women's presence in peace-building.

Women, taking part in conflict prevention, post-conflict peace-building, conflict resolution are to be provided with appropriate measures of security to prevent harassment or violence against them.

In the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as in the recommendations of other United Nations bodies, the women's NGOs have to be taken into account, including in ECOSOC and in the Commission on the Status of Women.

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Statement submitted by the Bahá'í International Community, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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07-63611 (E) 070108

Statement

Mobilizing institutional, legal and cultural resources to achieve gender equality

The central role of girls and women in the development of families, communities and nations has been clearly established: women are the first educators of the next generation; their education has a tremendous impact on the family's physical, social and economic well-being; their economic participation increases productivity and drives economic progress; their presence in public life has been associated with better governance and lower levels of corruption. No country, however, has yet achieved a full measure of gender equality. While women bear the most direct costs of this persistent inequality, the progress of all facets of human society is hindered as half of the world's population is held back from realizing its potential.

The last several decades have produced landmark documents elaborating the rights of women, calling for an end to all forms of discrimination against women, and outlining strategies to advance gender equality.[1] The systematic implementation of these measures will no doubt require a careful re-thinking of budget priorities and processes. Financing this effort, however, is only part of the equation. As the Bahá'í International Community noted in its statement to the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, a massive divide still separates the legal apparatus and the culture – embodied in values and institutional norms – required to achieve gender equality.[2] A comprehensive approach to financing gender equality will need to address the constellation of cultural, institutional, and legal obstacles holding back the urgently needed progress of half of the world's population.

From this perspective, we offer three measures for governments' consideration: (a) the adoption of a long-term perspective to guide short and medium-term efforts to finance gender equality; (b) the use of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to evaluate national budgets; and (c) the engagement of religious perspectives and institutions.

Adoption of a long-term perspective

To articulate a coherent and compelling vision of gender equality, leaders will need to move away from a predominantly crisis-driven, reactive mode of operation. Alongside short-term goals, they will need to frame policies from a long-term perspective, unconstrained by the intellectual straightjacket of election cycles. An exclusive focus on short-term goals too often falls prey to minimum standards,

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[1] **The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, The Beijing Platform for Action, the Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security along with the Millennium Development Goals have provided a vision and concrete plans for action.**

[2] Bahá'í International Community. (2006). *Beyond Legal Reforms: Culture and Capacity in the Eradication of Violence Against Women and Girls*. New York.

narrow orientations and compromise positions. A long-term orientation, looking ahead one, two, or more generations, would allow governments to explore a wider range of policy and programmatic options and to consider a diversity of contributions – including those from nongovernmental, business, academic and informal sectors.[3]

The first pillar of the long-term approach is a consensus about the broader goals of development and the outcomes to be achieved. Governments will need to articulate the goals of gender equality in terms of the well-being of society as a whole: its boys, girls, men, women; its peace and security, health and well-being, economic progress, environmental sustainability, and its institutions of governance. The second pillar of the long-term approach involves the measurement of progress towards stated goals. Even in instances where a country may be sensitive to the gender dimension, it often lacks the monitoring tools and systems to gauge the impact of its policies on girls and women. As such, the development of indicators will be essential to determine the effectiveness of financing initiatives. Given the diversity of national and local contexts, one-size-fits-all indicators will not be feasible – each region will need to develop tools most appropriate to its circumstances. The Bahá'í International Community looks forward to participating in discussions about this important initiative.

Aligning national budgets with human rights standards

Our second recommendation to governments concerns measures to bring national budgets into compliance with international human rights standards. Far from being value neutral, a government's budget reflects the values of the country – whom it values, whose work it values, and what it rewards.[4] While budgets are not typically formulated with a gender perspective, the proliferation of Gender Budget Initiatives suggests that these worlds are gradually coming together to bring budgeting processes in line with state obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This type of gender analysis helps to identify gender inequalities in budget processes, allocations, and outcomes; and assesses states' responsibilities to address these inequalities.[5] For the rights-based approach to be effective, however, it must take into account not only women but rather their entire life cycle – from birth to childhood and youth – as discrimination begins and compounds in these early stages.

The rights-based approach is not without precedent. A number of countries have successfully empowered women politically, boosted their rate of participation in the labor force, and helped to facilitate a balance between work and family life.[6] Governments would be well served by

[3] Given that it takes approximately 17 years for an individual to complete secondary education and approximately 20 years to complete higher education, a long-term perspective can more fully take into account and seek to shape the educational resources of a nation.

[4] Budlender, D. (ed.) (1996). *The Women's Budget*, Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), Cape Town.

[5] Elson, Diane. (2006). *Budgeting for Women's Rights: Monitoring Government Budgets for Compliance with CEDAW*. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM): New York.

[6] Hausmann, Ricardo, Laura D. Tyson, and Saadia Zahidi. (2007). *The Global Gender Gap Report 2007*. World Economic Forum: Davos, Switzerland.

examining closely the practices of those countries which have achieved a measure of success with these seemingly intractable problems. Norway, which the United Nations Development Programme has ranked highest on the Gender-related development index and the Gender empowerment measure, may serve as a useful example. An analysis of effective gender-specific policies and the legal, institutional, and culture obstacles to the adoption of such policies in other counties would help to formulate policy recommendations on the basis of concrete examples.

Engaging religion and religious leaders

Too often, policy makers have been resistant to addressing the cultural and religious dimensions of attitudes governing the treatment of women – fearing the potentially divisive nature of such an undertaking or lacking knowledge about whom to address and how to proceed. Yet the achievement of gender equality has been painstakingly slow precisely because questions about the roles and responsibilities of women challenge some of the most deeply entrenched human attitudes. Given the tremendous capacity of religion to influence the masses - both to inspire and to vilify - governments cannot afford to turn a blind eye.

In the absence of a sustained dialogue between governments and religions, religious extremism flourishes. Fuelled at various times by poverty, instability, the socio-economic changes accompanying globalization and access to information technologies, radical religious voices have exerted tremendous influence on politics and public policy. Among the casualties of this development has been the role of women in public life as evidenced, in some parts of the world, by a return to narrowly defined notions of a woman's place in the family, the community, and the world. The decrease in funding for woman's rights has been partly attributed to these social and cultural shifts. Complicating matters further is the fact that many states continue to hide behind cultural and religious reservations to international treaties concerning the rights of women. Today - nearly sixty years after adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 26 years after CEDAW entered into force - governments can no longer ignore religious practices and doctrines that stand in flagrant violation of international human rights standards. These must be subject to examination and scrutiny.

Despite this challenging reality, religious organizations constitute some of the oldest, far-reaching networks in the world. In many conflict-torn countries, they are the only surviving institutions. In the areas of health, environment, debt relief and humanitarian support, it is religious organizations that have been at the forefront of efforts to reach neglected areas and to influence government policy. Furthermore, given the tremendous weight of religion and culture in shaping perceptions about the role of women in society, religious organizations and constituencies will need to be meaningfully engaged in efforts to further the gender equality agenda. While at first, the language of finance and economics appears incompatible with that of ethics and values (common to religions), both governments and religious organizations need to become familiar with each other's rationale and perspectives - recognizing that these concern the same reality. An equitable economic system is not possible without agreement about

underlying values; and notions of ethics and values divorced from economic conditions will not be realized.

By adopting a long-term perspective, working to align national budgets with human rights obligations, and engaging with religions, governments can mobilize the institutional, cultural and legal resources that facilitate efforts to finance gender equality. It must be borne in mind, however, that the advancement of women is not a privilege, a technical exercise, or a magic bullet. It is part of a broader exercise of creating an ordered society in which relationships between men and women, parents and children, employees and employers, the governors and the governed adhere to principles of justice and emulate the highest aspirations of humankind.

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Statement submitted by Armenian International Women's Association, Armenian Relief Society, Bahá'í International Community, Christian Children's Fund, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Defence for Children International, Dominican Leadership Conference, Evergreen Club of Ghana, FEMVision, Grail, International Center for Research on Women, International Council of Jewish Women, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Federation of University Women, International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation, League of Women Voters of the United States, Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, National Council of Women of the United States, NGO Committee for UNICEF, Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association, Perhaps Kids Meeting Kids Can Make A Difference, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Society for Women and AIDS in Africa, Soroptimist International, UNANIMA International, VIVAT International, Women's World Summit Foundation, World Movement of Mothers, Zonta International

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2008/1.

07-63641 (E) 070108

Statement

The above mentioned NGOs, working toward the realization of gender equality for women and girls as a means to establish secure and healthy societies, are happy to participate in the theme of financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Emphasizing that financing for girls' equality with boys and for the empowerment of girls is a basic and sound strategy for the implementation of all human rights, as well as for achieving measurable progress on the theme of the fifty-second session of CSW,

Reminding everyone that our present global reality continues to be characterized by severe and pervasive violence and danger to the lives and well being of girls on all continents. "Trafficking, smuggling, physical and sexual exploitation and abduction, as well as the economic exploitation of children, even in its worst forms, are daily realities for children in all regions of the world, while domestic violence and sexual violence against women and children remain serious problems."[1] This state of vulnerability of girl children belies a commitment to full gender equality. We can and must do better to reach universal human rights.

In an effort to make girls visible and make a world fit for girl children, We,

Recall that in the Beijing Platform for Action, Section L, governments called attention to the need to overcome the gender stereotypes that exist in many societies in order to allow girls to develop their full potential;

And that the 51st session of CSW acknowledged a lack of attention to girls in policy and programme development and in resource allocation. CSW 51 urged governments to "... give explicit attention to the girl child in budget processes at all levels, including resource allocation and expenditure reviews, to ensure the mobilization of sufficient resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against girls";[2]

Furthermore CSW 51 recognized that the empowerment and participation of girls is key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence experienced by the girl child and urged governments to facilitate the participation of girl children in all matters that affect their lives;[2]

And in A World Fit for Children, the governments of the world declared they were "determined to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child throughout her life cycle and to provide special attention to her needs in order to promote and protect all her human rights, including the right to be free from coercion and from harmful practices and sexual exploitation."[1] They further promised to "promote gender equality and equal access to basic social services, such as education, nutrition, and health care, including sexual and reproductive healthcare, vaccinations, and protection from diseases representing the major causes of mortality, and will mainstream a gender perspective in all development policies and programmes;"[1]

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[1] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27-E/CN.6/2007/9).

4. Create processes and venues in policy and decision-making bodies where the voices of children, particularly of girl children, will be heard. Girl children can make contributions in:

- education methods and structures
- poverty reduction
- child soldiering
- HIV/AIDs
- reproductive health
- child abuse
- trafficking

5. Ensure policy makers have access to national research data that is disaggregated by gender and age so that they can make appropriate resource allocations.

We recommend that international and multilateral sources of financing for gender equality

Integrate funding for girls and women throughout the lifecycle when allocating funds for gender equality.

We recommend that UN agencies and NGOs

1. Integrate a lifecycle approach in all gender related programmes, policies and initiatives.

2. Engage in action that draws the attention of governments to the promises made for girls' human rights and demand government accountability and evaluation.

3. Ensure that girls are partners in identifying their own needs and in developing, planning, implementing and assessing policies and programmes to meet these needs.

We, the here-signed NGOs, are ready to engage in partnership with all states parties, all UN agencies, especially with UNICEF, to make the world fit for the girl child. We look for strong policy and determined implementation from this 52nd session of CSW.

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Statement submitted by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2008/1.

07-63653 (E) 030108

Statement

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), in general consultative status with ECOSOC, recognises that war and conflict disproportionately affect women and girls and that violence against women is systematic, extreme and widespread in situations of conflict and war.

Respect for diversity and gender equality are crucial to understanding the root causes of conflict and subsequently for addressing conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict resolution, peacemaking, peace-keeping and peace-building.

Civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and are increasingly targeted by combatants and armed elements. Even after the declaration of peace, women remain threatened by militarization and the culture of violence, which persists in post-conflict situations. Due to the realities of violent conflict, there are very few mechanisms in place to protect women and girls caught up in conflict. It is thus even more imperative to halt conflicts and to strengthen conflict prevention and peace building.

In light of the way in which conflict and war impact on women and girls, WAGGGS stresses the need to strike a balance between on the one hand, responding to women and girls as victims during and following armed conflict and on the other hand, ensuring women's participation in the prevention and resolution of conflict, peace negotiations, reconciliation and reconstruction for the development of sustainable peace (women as agents of change).

Children's rights, especially the rights of girls, are often disregarded in times of conflict — whether it is conflict at home, in the community or armed conflict between nations. This amounts to exclusion, with the implication being that, as children are perceived to have nothing to offer by way of a solution, they need not be consulted or informed in any way. This exclusion has a direct impact in terms of rights lost but also an indirect impact in terms of what children learn about responsible behaviour.[1]

As Peace is inextricably linked to equality between men and women, lasting peace cannot be established without the participation of women and the inclusion of gender perspectives in the peace process. There is an urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into the peacekeeping processes.

An understanding of the impact of conflict on women and girls as well as effective arrangements to guarantee protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to promotion and maintenance of international peace and security.

The UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on "Women, Peace and Security," which was adopted in October 2000, clearly stresses "the importance of the equal participation and full involvement of women in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution."

[1] Our Rights, Our Responsibilities, WAGGGS Call to Action 2002-2008: The Right to Live in Peace, page 7.

How WAGGGS is addressing "The Right to live in Peace":

The World Association provides millions of girls and young women with non-formal education, giving them the opportunity to develop confidence, leadership and life skills. Through WAGGGS, girls and young women are given unique opportunities — in leadership, in global citizenship, in international travel and intercultural learning.

Key aspects of WAGGGS' non-formal education methods include learning by doing, volunteerism, and peer education. For instance, through its Building Peace Among Children project, WAGGGS has trained young women from countries affected by conflict in Africa to be volunteer peace ambassadors among their peers.[2]

WAGGGS' theme from 2002 to 2008 is "Our Rights, Our Responsibilities." Human rights issues, such as 'The Right to live in Peace,' are explored particularly as relates to young people as part of the global community.

Under the "Our Rights, Our Responsibilities" theme, WAGGGS has produced Activity Packs for individual members and Member Organizations to explore the area of human rights. The packs, which include a module provided by UNICEF, contain an introduction on how each right is linked with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The packs provide ideas for discussions and activities.[3]

Most of the 144 Member Organisations of WAGGGS have conducted educational projects and programmes on 'The Right to live in Peace.'

WAGGGS is also involved in international peace projects. A recent major success was the Amahoro Amani project, which promotes peace in Africa, a joint project of WAGGGS and the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The Amahoro Amani project was set up to engage several thousands of young people in combating ethnic prejudice and to inspire them to make a real contribution to social change in the Great Lakes Region of Africa. It has involved seven Guide and Scout Associations in Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda.

Guides and Scouts have been carrying out many practical activities including setting up peace and reconciliation clubs for young people from different ethnic backgrounds and organizing peace and reconciliation days.

WAGGGS calls national governments to take stronger action to implement the provisions of the human rights conventions and fulfil their promises to the children of the world by:

- Advocating for development of policies, implementation of programmes, and social action to improve the inclusion of women in decision making processes, in conflict prevention, management and resolutions as well as in post-conflict peace-building
- Supporting the full participation of women in all decision-making bodies and processes that affect the political, economic, social, educational and health concerns of society as a whole
- Implementing speedily and fully UN Security Council Resolution 1325

[2] WAGGGS position statement, Education, 2007.

[3] WAGGGS position statement, Human Rights, 2007.

- Ensuring equal participation of women in all stages of conflict prevention and peace negotiations and reconciliation processes, analysis, and policy making as they represent one half of the human society
- Ensuring that sufficient additional resources are allocated to support conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and post-conflict peace-building

WAGGGS calls on the international community to:

- Draw on the expertise of women's organisations to carry out further research on the impact of conflict on girls and women as well as the role and the possibilities of integration of women in conflict prevention, peace-building processes and conflict resolution
- Promote gender equality and safeguard women's human rights and their political, social and economic rights in all policies
- Support strongly local women's peace initiatives as well as women's organisations involved in conflict prevention and resolution and in post-conflict peace building

WAGGGS urges national governments and the international community to:

- Ensure full implementation of international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and children during and after conflicts
- Address the roots of conflicts such as "gender-related" violations including rape, trafficking and military-related prostitution as well as social injustice
- Appeal to all actors involved in conflict prevention, management and resolution to adopt a gender perspective, including the special needs of women and girls in all parts of the process
- Include education — formal as well as non-formal — and economical empowerment of girls and women in all post-war programmes
- Eliminate gender discrimination, including through the promotion of educational programmes that challenge traditional attitudes of men and boys toward women and girls in post-conflict situations
- Allocate sufficient public funds for relevant children's services and support
- Support organizations involved in the promotion of peace education of girls and young women
- Recognise non-formal education as a positive method of peace education